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PRESIDENT VIOLA EXPLAINS SHORTCOMINGS, TASKS

PY032258 Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 1 Nov 81 pp 2, 3

[Text] Argentine President Roberto Eduardo Viola has stated that "Argentina's problem is basically political and not economic" and that "if we Argentines manage to agree on the quest for common objectives and draw up an outline of the country which we want and can build, the creation of strong institutions will be the immediate outcome."

The chief of state made these remarks during an exclusive interview granted to the magazine DISCUSION, which published this interview in its latest issue.

"If we agree on a common strategy for the country," the president said, "the economic situation will tend toward a solution and political reorganization will be within our reach."

In response to criticism launched at his administration for delays and sluggishness, Viola said: "The country is going through complex and difficult times as far as many important aspects are concerned, and I still believe that it would be a mistake to try to overcome these circumstances by hasty government actions which would only lead to many ineffective decisions."

Further on the president said: "I would rather run the risk of being criticized than the risks which are bound to plague those who lose their heads over a sense of urgency or in emergencies, or those who allow themselves to be carried away by feelings which may be prompted by facts but can also be caused by the preaching or forecasts of those interested in obtaining specific social effects."

Asked about the source of those Argentine evils which are now being felt more strongly, General Viola explained that "our critical position, our set-backs and our difficulties stem for the most part from our lack of unity and ability to understand, realize and take advantage of these changes [as published] for the benefit of the nation as a whole."

Viola added: "This lack of unity has undermined and neutralized even the best-intentioned efforts, curtailing their feasibility and continuity and posing an enormous obstacle to understanding a different status quo."

In this regard the president stressed: "This crisis, this complex and unsuccessful system for reacting to the demands of changing circumstances, is still being felt. There are some improvements in certain areas, but the crisis is being felt very harshly in others."

He went on to say: "No one can argue at this point that our nation needs to seek a Western type of democracy. There is practically unanimous agreement that we belong to the free world, though we might disagree with one aspect of this participation or another."

Viola indicated that "our mistakes in the economic field, mistakes which are responsible for the problems and the backwardness of the nation, have only been resolved to a certain extent. They continue to exert influence on our politics every day."

The chief of state remarked that these, "as well as many other factors, are parts of the 'crisis of change' which the process of national reorganization proposes to resolve through a combination of ideas and projects which must have the support of a united nation."

Viola indicated that "for this we have to achieve an in-depth understanding among ourselves so as to define once and for all the contents of these changes and a common course of action for coping with them."

General Viola believes that "this consensus, this understanding, is the only way to deal with the crisis without upheavals or discriminatory autocracies."

Viola extolled the role which the political parties have to play in the organization of the community and in the institutionalization of the country and emphasized that "in modern societies the political parties must change and assume the role of government institutions, that is," he added, "they must share the responsibility for collective decisions."

He expressed the opinion that "viewing political parties as mere electoral tools is an anachronism."

Later on the president reaffirmed that the statute of political parties will be issued next year, but was unable to specify the month.

Asked about the fate of the National Movement of Opinion (MON), General Viola said: "To allow the process of national reorganization to bring about the strengthening of an institutional and political system capable of guaranteeing its own stability, something which in turn will lead to the historical continuity of the nation, there must be united support from the majority of political parties and social groups organized on the basis of principles and objectives capable of setting all Argentines in motion."

GALTIERI ENJOYS LUNCHEON WITH HIGH U.S. OFFICIALS

PY032320 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2200 GMT 2 Nov 81

[Excerpt] Washington, 2 Nov (TELAM) -- Lt Gen Leopoldo Fortunato Galtieri, commander in chief of the Argentine Army, today stated that he had enjoyed a friendly luncheon with high-ranking officials of the Reagan administration and that during this luncheon issues which arouse the concern of Argentina and the United States were discussed.

General Galtieri attended a luncheon held in his honor by Esteban A. Takacs, Argentine ambassador to the United States. This luncheon was attended by Caspar Weinberger, U.S. defense secretary; Richard V. Allen, presidential adviser for national security; Gen Edward Charles Meyer, U.S. Army chief of staff; John Marsh, army secretary; and Thomas Enders, assistant secretary of state for inter-American affairs.

"We had a friendly talk and discussed everything that is arousing the concern of Argentina and the United States," General Galtieri said at the end of the luncheon.

Asked to comment on why so many high-ranking officials of the Reagan administration had attended the luncheon in his honor, General Galtieri said: "At the domestic level Argentines must analyze what this means within the context of our recent past, our present and our future." He added: "At the foreign level, Argentina has a leading role to play in the world and must not be satisfied with a secondary role."

FOREIGN MINISTER BRIEFS FIGUEIREDO ON CANCUN

PY031926 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1410 GMT 31 Oct 81

[Excerpts] Brasilia, 31 Oct (TELAM) -- Brazilian Foreign Minister Ramiro Saraiva Guerreiro has made an extensive report to President Joao Figueiredo on the Brazilian delegation's participation in the Cancun meeting, interim Itamaraty spokesman Jose Vicente Pimentel revealed today. After explaining that Foreign Minister Guerreiro visited President Figueiredo last Thursday both as a friend and an aide, Pimentel said that Foreign Minister Guerreiro considers the Cancun meeting a moderate success.

The Itamaraty spokesman added that Minister Guerreiro had noted the favorable turn in the U.S. posture as attested by President Reagan's acceptance of the proposal for world-wide negotiations.

PAPER NOTES U.S. RESPECT FOR POSITION ON ANGOLA

PY032355 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 31 Oct 81 p 2

[From the "Politics Today, Tomorrow" column: "Adult Relationships"]

[Text] The general impression among diplomatic circles is that the United States has decided to adopt a sensible position on recognizing that Brazil today maintains a dialogue with Angola at the best level, in the same manner in which Brazil recognizes that the United States has good relations with South Africa. Although Angola and South Africa have antagonistic positions in almost every respect, Brasilia and Washington do not react in a touchy manner or with boisterous interference in those two relationships.

Moreover, the United States reportedly recognizes that Itamaraty's competence is reflected in the Brazilian-Angolan relationship. And in addition to the lack of interference, the U.S. Government expresses admiration and respect for Brazilian foreign policy. Given the fact that this attitude of mutual respect has been consolidated, Washington will reportedly now take steps to consolidate the dialogue with Brasilia in an opening for understanding within a broad framework which will exclude only the transfer of more advanced technology in the nuclear energy sector.

NICARAGUAN FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES IN BRASILIA

PY031642 Paris AFP in Spanish 1543 GMT 3 Nov 81

[Text] Brasilia, 3 Nov (AFP) -- Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel d'Escoto arrived in Brasilia today for a 3-day official visit to Brazil. The minister will be received tomorrow by Brazilian interim President Aureliano Chaves He will leave for Rio de Janeiro on Thursday where he will stay all day and then leave for Panama on Friday.

D'Escoto on Bilateral Relations

PY040121 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2330 GMT 3 Nov 81

[Text] Brasilia, 3 Nov (LATIN-REUTER) -- Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Father Miguel d'Escoto reported here today that his country is living under constant threat of foreign intervention, especially from the United States. The priest, who is in charge of the foreign policy of Nicaragua's revolutionary government which took over in 1979, today began a 2-day official visit to Brazil.

At the airport, D'Escoto was welcomed by his Brazilian counterpart, Ramiro Saraiva Guerreiro, and in the course of his first talk with the local press he indicated that the relations between Brazil and Nicaragua are frankly fraternal [as received].

This is D'Escoto's second visit to Brazil in slightly over a year. However today he became the first high-ranking member of the Sandinista government to be officially invited to visit Brazil. D'Escoto visited Brazil last year to hold private talks with Saraiva Guerreiro and with members of the Brazilian Catholic Church.

The two foreign ministers held their first 80-minute meeting today at the end of which D'Escoto reported that they had discussed Nicaragua's domestic situation within the subregional and Latin American frameworks.

He explained that the purpose of his visit was to seek an increase in bilateral relations, especially in the economic field, but added that "the political aspects also interest us very much."

The Nicaraguan foreign minister praised Brazil's foreign policy and described it as responsible, honorable and consistent, adding that this is why Nicaragua wants to tighten its bonds with Brazil.

Official Itamaraty sources have reported that the second meeting between the two foreign ministers will be held tomorrow to study bilateral economic issues and technical aid. A few months ago Brazil granted Nicaragua a $32 million line of credit to import Brazilian vehicles.

The Nicaraguan foreign minister reported that his country is living under constant threats of foreign interventions and blamed the United States for encouraging these interventions. He stated that the Central American policy of Ronald Reagan's administration is interventionistic and bullying and added that pro-Somoza agents are being trained in neighboring countries such as Honduras and Guatemala as well as in the United States in order to intervene in Nicaragua.

Foreign Minister D'Escoto will end his official visit tomorrow, and it is probable that he will go to Rio de Janeiro on Thursday in order to hold talks with the members of the Brazilian Conference of Bishops, according to diplomatic sources.

ARMY SAID TO BE OBSERVING POLITICIANS' ACTIONS

PY031426 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 29 Oct 81 p 5

[Excerpts] Army circles are attentively but deliberately silent observing the behavior of politicians during this period in which Aureliano Chaves, a civilian, is acting as president of the nation.

Army Minister Walter Pires' directive that officers, including members of the army's high command, refrain from making political statements has been strictly complied with after army week was marked with statements by various commanders who reaffirmed that the Figueiredo government's political liberalization process will continue. Since then, military chiefs have refused to make any political comment, even off-the-record, to journalists, thus allegedly complying with a directive from superiors.

According to military sources, the Army is oriented exclusively to its own internal activities and it is only normal that political problems be dealt with and resolved by politicians as an election year draws near. This does not however mean that the army is disassociating itself from political problems which, in the final analysis, are related to the nation's permanent objectives among which security is uppermost.

There is noticeable interest at this juncture in the performance of acting President Chaves who is viewed with sympathy by high-ranking military officers. This still is the government of General Figueiredo but a military consensus has it that the performance of Aureliano Chaves, a civilian, in discharging the responsibilities of the office will be an important factor in the process of liberalization.

REASONS FOR CABINET RESHUFFLE DISCUSSED

PY290115 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1357 GMT 28 Oct 81

[Text] Lima, 28 Oct (TELAM) -- The government has overcome its second cabinet crisis by appointing an air force officer as new interior minister to replace Jose Maria de La Jara who has been the target of strong criticism for his lack of decision in facing the wave of terrorism. The government has also replaced the three defense ministers. De la Jara will be replaced by Lt Gen Jose Gagliardi who in turn will be replaced as aeronautics minister by retired Gen Jose Garcia Calderon who held this post during the military regime.

Another officer who held the post as interior minister during the former government is Gen Luis Cisneros Vizquerra who will now replace retired Gen Jorge Muniz Luna as war minister. Vice Adm Mario Castro de Mendoza will be replaced as navy minister by Vice Adm Jose Carvajal Pareja. The new ministers will be sworn in on Friday noon at Government Palace by President Fernando Belaunde.

The most prickly issue in this cabinet reshuffle has been the exit of Jose Maria de la Jara who during the past few months has been severely criticized even by leaders of the governing party, the Popular Action Party (AP) and the media for his lack of decision in facing the terrorist escalation in the country which has resulted in 11 deaths, including five policemen. De la Jara, in his resignation letter submitted to President Belaunde, states that during his tenure he had to face increasing pressure from the escalation of terrorism which has the aim of destabilizing the government through the condemnable path of violence.

Since Belaunde took over the government on 28 July [1980], after almost 12 years of military government, more than 1,000 explosions have been registered throughout the 24 departments of the country causing substantial material damage estimated at $12.5 million. As a consequence of an attack against a police station in Tambo, Ayacucho Department, approximately 575 km southeast of Lima which resulted in three deaths -- one policemen and two civilians -- the government decreed a state of emergency and a curfew in five Andean provinces about the middle of this month.

De la Jara's replacement, which had been requested some time ago was, hastened seemingly due to the recent incidents which took place in Cusco where, according to reports, one university student was killed by the police. This incident also resulted in the resignation of Cusco Mayor Julio Rosasco Garkes.

Prime Minister Manuel Ulloa stated that the replacement of De la Jara and of the defense ministers does not mean that the cabinet had experienced a crisis. This is one of the most stable cabinets in Peruvian history. The first cabinet crisis took place when Luis Felipe Alarco, education minister at that time, resigned due to strong pressure because of his inefficient handling of the situation caused by the strike of the Single Union of Education Workers (SUTEP) which has Maoist leanings.

The government has disclosed [as received] the causes for De la Jara's exit except for stating that it was his request, although there are some rumors about certain pressure by the leadership of the governing party and by Javier Alva Orlandini, second vice president of the republic and president of the Senate, who is considered the democratic regime's strong man. The number of armed forces' representatives in the cabinet has increased from three to four which shows Belaunde's zeal not to resort to the armed forces to struggle against terrorism only 15 months after the military handed over the government to him. In 1965, during Belaunde's first government, there was a guerrilla outbreak near Ayacucho which was thwarted, after the police forces failed, by the army which resulted in 50 deaths including soldiers, policemen, guerrillas and peasants.

Further on Cabinet Reshuffle

PY281603 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 28 Oct 81

[Excerpts] Lt Gen Jose Garcia Calderon has been appointed aeronautics minister. He replaces Lt Gen Jose Gagliardi Schiaffino. The cabinet reshuffle has been announced by Prime Minister Manuel Ulloa Elias. The new ministers will be sworn in next Friday.

Swearing in of New Cabinet

PY311425 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 31 Oct 81

[Text] President Belaunde swore in four new members of the cabinet, presided over by Manuel Ulloa Elias, in a ceremony held yesterday at Government House. The ceremony was attended by a large number of people. President Belaunde swore in the new interior minister, Lt Gen Jose Gagliardi (Esquecinos); the new war minister, Gen Luis Cisneros Vizquerra; the new navy minister, Vice Adm Jose Carvajal y Pareja; and the new aeronautics minister, Lt Gen Jose Garcia Calderon.

BELAUNDE DISCUSSES TERRORISM, RUMORS AGAINST SENATOR

PY291748 Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 26 Oct 81 p A-4

[Text] Peruvian President Fernando Belaunde Terry said yesterday that the government has not thought of "declaring a state of emergency" in Cusco. But he admitted that "there is a lot of tension, something which is natural in a democracy since there is absolute freedom." Belaunde discounted rumors about an alleged terrorist attack planned against him during his recent visit to Pucallpa, adding that the arrest of certain armed terrorists was "a mere coincidence."

Regarding some terrorist attacks such as the one perpetrated against the house of the father of a Cusco Popular Action Party deputy, he repudiated these attacks and added that "people also exaggerate." He noted "people should describe things as they are and not exaggerate." He noted that "in a constructive government" the fact that a person carries out a dynamite attack is not important since "for each house destroyed by terrorists; the AP [Popular Action] government will built 10, 20 or 30 houses in keeping with its responsibility to the country."

During a talk with journalists held at Government House while standing before a scale model of the "Las Torres de San Borja" housing program -- which he later visited accompanied by the housing minister -- Belaunde said that companies that are the property of social organizations will be respected. He added: "We shall not obstruct the development of this property system; but we want this to be a real development not one growing on an artificial basis." He noted that in some cases these enterprises have based their development on the collective efforts of all their contributors. He then noted that social property is made up of the effort of that group composed of the labor force.

Answering a question on arrests made in Ayacucho, Belaunde noted that these arrests have been made without violating the constitution and in compliance with the regulations established by the state of emergency. He said that arrests were made if there was a suspicion of a possible participation in terrorist activities. He added that once it was verified that the person had not been involved in terrorist activities, he was immediately freed and noted that this has been the procedure followed with the French citizen. Moreover, Belaunde Terry reasserted that the judicial branch is completely independent in Peru and that none of its functions are interfered with. He said: "This is a promise we had made to the country and we have fulfilled it completely."

Regarding the "Sanitas case," in which rumors state AP Senator Javier Diaz Orihuela is allegedly involved, he said that any rumor that the government is involved in immoral activities "is completely absurd."

He noted: "A government that is presided over by a person like myself and made up of very hard-working people who have an extensive background cannot be affected by these criticisms." He said that Senator Diaz Orihuela had issued statements in this regard. He added: "I do not think that any slander of this kind can affect the reputation of the government. This is an issue that the senator has already explained and that is being studied by the judicial branch." Belaunde also reasserted that the AP election system will be amended so that a faction of the party will not be able to hold an important position because it holds the majority. He said that an "incomplete list" system is being studied, whereby the election for the AP plenary meeting will assure that the winning faction will be able to hold from 60 to 70 percent of the seats and the other factions the rest. "He said that this system will ensure the presence of the minority and that "this is used in any democratic system."

NICARAGUAN FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES IN LIMA

PY022119 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1742 GMT 2 Nov 81

[Text] Lima, 2 Nov (TELAM) -- Father Miguel d'Escoto, Nicaraguan foreign minister, arrived early this morning in this capital and held a meeting with his Peruvian counterpart Javier Arias Stella. The issues discussed during this meeting have not been disclosed as yet but information leaks indicated that matters related to cooperation between the two countries were brought up for consideration. Father d'Escoto said that he was carrying a special message from Nicaragua for the Peruvian Government and people. The Nicaraguan foreign minister will leave either tonight or tomorrow for Brazil on an official trip.

D'Escoto Statement

PY031537 Paris AFP in Spanish 0211 GMT 3 Nov 81

[Text] Lima, 2 Nov (AFP) -- Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel d'Escoto has harshly criticized the policy of Reagan's U.S. Government for trying to justify training activities aimed toward an invasion of Nicaragua.

During an unofficial visit to Lima while traveling to Brazil, where he has been invited by that country's government, D'Escoto had lunch with the foreign minister and gave a detailed explanation to the press of Nicaragua's internal situation and foreign relations.

He asserted that the Reagan administration does not control the training of former Somoza guards in Florida, alleging that it takes place on private property, of which the United States has always been respectful. But, the minister commented, then we can do the same thing in Nicaragua on private property and train people who wish to liberate Puerto Rico, a country which is longing for independence. It should not be forgotten, he continued, that the Hawk View operation was a real and not a theoretical preparation for an invasion which made Nicaragua mobilize.

Terming as madness [words indistinct] statements made by Jeanne Kirkpatrick, U.S. representative to the United Nations, in the sense that she should be asked for concrete data instead of irresponsible words. Returning to relations with the United States he referred to that country's refusal to sell wheat. "That shows what the U.S. Government is capable of doing." But we have relations and solidarity with Mexico, Costa Rica, Panama, Cuba, Venezuela, Peru, Brazil, Canada, Mitterrand's France, the GDR, the Soviet Union, Bulgaria, etc.

When explaining the detention of members of the Communist Party (PC) and private organizations he said that they had violated specific laws regarding the economic situation and given a false picture of reality. But it is strange, he added, that the United States should concern itself only with our measures in the private sector and not with those regarding the PC.

Regarding the daily LA PRENSA, he asserted that it is no longer the same as in the time of Pedro Joaquin Chamorro for whom he had words of praise.

Its present directors do not realize that revolutions are not made for minorities but rather for majorities, he explained. He added that pluralism in Nicaragua signifies the possibility of expressing oneself without incurring any problem whatever, but within the process and not in the manner of those colonialists who intended to return to a monarchical regime after American independence.

Foreign Minister d'Escoto made an analysis of the great progress achieved after Somoza's fall in the field of literacy, university education, growing employment and purchasing power of the poor classes.

PROTOCOL ON URBAN TRANSPORT SIGNED WITH USSR

PY302256 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 30 Oct 81

[Excerpts] [Words indistinct] has announced that the acquisition of a fleet of trucks from Japan is being studied. Orrego, who returned yesterday froma tour through Japan, China and the Soviet Union, said his interest had been to observe the advances made in those countries regarding [words indistinct] and rapid mass transportation. He indicated that Peru enjoys a [words indistinct] credit surplus in foreign countries and that [words indistinct] for the construction of electric terminals for which prefeasibility studies will be completed next year. Orrego revealed that the Soviet Union signed a protocol of intent to provide assistance in the sector of urban transport, [words indistinct] and rapid mass transport.

NETHERLANDS TO CONTINUE ARMS SUPPLY TO COUNTRY

PY302005 Paris AFP in Spanish 0152 GMT 27 Oct 81

[Text] Lima, 26 Oct (AFP) -- It was learned here this evening that the Netherlands will continue to aid Peru with the supply of arms, as it has already done by selling it eight modern warships. This was stated by the Netherlands Ambassador Vincent Bruyns. The ambassador made this statement in Arequipa, 1,000 km south of Lima, where he is visiting. Bruyns was declared guest of honor during a ceremony held today at the city hall. The ambassador pointed out that the ships sold to Peru are fitted with powerful antisubmarine and surface weapons.

MINISTER ULLOA NOTES DETAILS OF ECONOMIC RECOVERY

PY300219 Lima EXPRESO in Spanish 15 Oct 81 p 9

[Text] Yesterday Manuel Ulloa, president of the Council of Ministers, stated that "as a favorable result of the government's economic policy the inflation rate predicted for next year amounts to around 45 percent."

The economy and finance minister made these statements at the end of the supreme economy and finance accord [acuerdo supremo de economia y finanzas]. He also pointed out that the inflation rate is not lower because of the recession and inflation in the world in addition to the existence of protectionist policies. He asserted that in the domestic realm there are still urgent social demands to attend to which constitute an obstacle to economic recovery. Referring to petroleum production, the prime minister stated that there are very significant signs that there will be a substantial increase in the volume of production. He stated that although it will require a lot of investment and effort, Peru must maintain its position as a petroleum exporting country.

He asserted that the trade balance has not yet reached the levels which the government would have liked due to the fact that the prices of goods which are exported have dropped on the international market. Regarding the concern on whether a new "package" will be released, the president of the Council of Ministers asserted that there will not be one this year but that the government will continue its policy of very moderate adjustments to prices. He reiterated that subsidies will be eliminated gradually. Ulloa stated that "with the exception of rice, most of the subsidies have already been eliminated."

POLITICIANS COMMENT ON PRESIDENT'S CHINA VISIT

PA030338 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2245 GMT 2 Nov 81

[Text] Caracas, 2 Nov (EFE) -- Venezuelan President Luis Herrera Campins' visit to China has caused some concern in the country. Political leaders opposed to the Social Christian regime believe that Herrera Campins' attitude of becoming involved with the conflicts of the great powers is not advisable. In statements published today by the local press, former Foreign Minister Ramon Escovar Salom and Deputies Jose Vicente Rangel, Carlos Canache Mata and Radames Larrazabal, question statements made by Herrera Campins in China regarding Soviet interference in Latin America. The Venezuelan chief of state said in Beijing that Cuban-Soviet interests want to dominate El Salvador by violent means.

Former Foreign Minister Escovar Salom, while criticizing the president's attitude, says that in interfering in matters in which Venezuelan diplomacy is uninformed, the president lapsed into rhetoric and errors. Escovar says that it is very difficult for Venezuela, a country whose dependency on the United States grows constantly, to protest bipolarity and that what is more, the Social Christian policy in El Salvador is bipolar. Jose Vicente Rangel, leader of the new alternative movement and socialist presidential hopeful, says that the president is getting the country involved within the framework of the world's superpowers, following a line similar to that of U.S. President Ronald Reagan. The socialist leader says also that Herrera Campins is committing Venezuela to alleged military agreements about which the country should be informed.

Carlos Canache Mata, a Democratic Action (social democrat) deputy said that it is in bad taste for the president to make such a long trip to China to accuse the Soviet Union, regardless of the bases for the accusation, and the president should not become involved in the "maelstrom" of the superpowers. Meanwhile, Deputy Radames Larrazabal of the Venezuelan Communist Party emphasizes that the purpose of the trip to China is to create the Caracas-Beijing-Washington triangle whose purpose is to eliminate the people's movements in Central America and the Caribbean. Despite conflicting opinions, the governing Social Christian Party [COPEI], speaking through former Foreign Minister Aristides Calvani defends Herrera Campins' position in China. Calvani believes that in any visit abroad, the president as well as the foreign minister can analyze international politics and adds that in this case he cannot understand the surprise because imperialist problems are discussed, "unless Soviet imperialism is the only one that cannot be mentioned."

Chinese Reportage on Trip

For reportage on President Herrera's visit to the People's Republic of China, including talks with Chinese officials in Beijing, see the Western Hemisphere section of the 28 October People's Republic of China DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

NUCLEAR ENERGY VETOED WHILE OTHER SOURCES AVAILABLE

PA260407 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2254 GMT 25 Oct 81

[Text] Caracas, 25 Oct (LATIN-REUTER) -- Luis Berrizbeitia, director at the Energy and Mines Ministry, said today that Venezuela will not develop programs for the peaceful use of nuclear energy until alternate sources are exhausted. He said that "the technologically more advanced countries have not yet solved the serious technical, ecological and social problems connected with the use of nuclear energy."

Venezuela has attached greater importance to the development of hydroelectric power, coal and oil to generate electricity. "The national executive branch has emphasized that no decision will be made on the eventual development of nuclear energy until the development possibilities of the traditonal sources are exhausted," said the official. Berrizbeitia, director of electric power, coal and other resources at the ministry, added that "for our country, the development of nuclear energy is not a necessary condition to achieve independent economic and social development."

DEFENSE SECRETARY DENIES GUATEMALANS TRAIN HERE

FL280013 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2345 GMT 27 Oct 81

[Text] Mexico City, 27 Oct (NOTIMEX) -- Mexico is not a paradise for guerrillas, Secretary of National Defense Gen Felix Galvan Lopez stated when he denied that Guatemalan forces are training in national territory. The secretary categorically denied such reports, and added that he had invited the members of the Guatemalan Government who had made such statements to tour the areas [they had mentioned] and verify that there are no refuges for guerrillas here.

On another subject, Galvan Lopez affirmed that the nuclear exercises being conducted by the United States on the border with the State of Chihuahua have not harmed the country, and that consequently there is no basis for complaint.

Referring to his secretariat's budget for next year, he said it is under study and that, of course, will be higher than the current one. Felix Galvan stated that there will be no more arms purchases this year.

PEMEX REPORTS ON PROVED, PROBABLE OIL RESERVES

FL300239 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0145 GMT 30 Oct 81

[Text] Mexico City, 29 Oct (NOTIMEX) -- Mexico's proved oil reserves amount to 72 billion barrels, while the probable are 58.65 billion barrels, the state enterprise Mexican Petroleum asserted today. Of these reserves, the richest oil fields are located southeast of Mexico in the Gulf of Campeche, where there are 34 billions of proved reserves and another 33 billions of probable reserves. Pemex announced that it is continuing exploratory activities in various parts of the country, mentioning the exploratory wells being drilled in the Campeche sound, where it is believed there are rich oilfields.

LIGHT OIL PRICE INCREASED BY $1 PER BARREL

PA010333 Paris AFP in Spanish 0258 GMT 1 Nov 81

[Text] Mexico City, 31 Oct (AFP) -- Mexico will increase the price of light oil by $1 per barrel as of 1 November, Rodolfo Moctezuma, head of Mexican Petroleum (Pemex), said today. With this increase, Mexico will export its "Isthmus" type oil at $35 per barrel, while the price of the heavy "Maya" will remain at $28.50 per barrel.

PAPER REPORTS NEWSMAN'S DISAPPEARANCE IN EL SALVADOR

PA310351 Paris AFP in Spanish 1607 GMT 30 Oct 81

[Text] Mexico, 30 Oct (AFP) -- The center leftwing newspaper UNO MAS UNO reports in today's edition the disappearance in El Salvador of its correspondent, Peruvian newsman Gonzalo Alvarez del Villar. According to the paper, Alvarez was sent to Honduras to cover the meeting of sugarcane growers held there in early October. After that he went to Nicaragua and 15 days ago he reportedly went to El Salvador to continue his journalistic activities in Central America. Since that date his whereabouts are unknown. The newspaper for which he works has surmised that he is under arrest in El Salvador.

COSTA RICA

OFFICIALS GO TO EL SALVADOR TO PICK UP HIJACKERS

PA031756 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 3 Nov 81

[Text] The air pirates who last Thursday hijacked a SANSA airplane during a flight [words indistinct] together with the six members of the liberated terrorist commando group will be brought to the country tomorrow. A group of government officials left this afternoon for El Salvador. The group includes the state attorney and the assistant state attorney, (Roberto Steiner) and (Martin Trejos), respectively, who will carry out an investigation and file the final extradition papers.

The idea is to have all the persons arrested by the Salvadoran Army returned to the country. Those persons were arrested after they forced the Costa Rican Government to release six arrested persons who were taken with them to Salvadoran territory.

The SANSA plane will bring air pirates (Noel Blandon), (Rigoberto Rosales), (William Rosales), (Yvonne Hunter) and (Gurmelda Cajena). [sentence as heard] These are the phoney names used by the hijackers to buy the plane tickets in Quepos. The hijackers will be brought to Costa Rica in a SANSA plane [words indistinct] last Thursday.

Security measures have been adopted for the return to the country of the commandos of the Nicaraguan International Salvation Against communism and the persons liberated from our prisons, (Hugo Villagra), (Eliseo Gutierrez), (Jose Luis Lopez Gutierrez), (Luis Humberto Solorzano), (Orlando Murillo Gonzalez) and (Roger Benavides Castrellon). [passage indistinct].

Once the air pirates arrive in the country, they will face intense interrogation sessions. An effort will be made to establish the ties of these persons with extreme rightists interested in carrying out terrorist actions in the country. Later, these persons will be sent to court for trial.

Existing national legislation establishes punishment for air hijacking with prison sentences from 3 to 20 years. For this reason, the trial will begin immediately with the active participation of the state attorney's office.

The government is saying nothing about the extradition being discussed with the Salvadoran authorities or about the measures that will adopted here with regard to the 11 terrorists who will be arriving in the country sometime tomorrow.

The government (?rented) a SANSA plane and has adopted security measures to make sure that nothing goes wrong [words indistinct] the terrorists face trial. Intelligence authorities expect to be able to determine if there really is a Nicaraguan International Salvation Against Communism and what its links are with extreme rightwing organizations in other countries.

The public security minister has said that if we were to control all the flights in the country, an army would be required. In addition to this, it is not customary to conduct searches for domestic flights, Arnulfo Carmona said.

Referring to the hijacking, Carmona said that the seriousness of the incident would have to be determined before ordering a strict watch on persons who for one reason or another have to take domestic or international flights.

The hijacking of the SANSA plane by a rightwing terrorist Nicaraguan commando group is the result of the war between Somozists and Sandinists, the public security minister said. He added this will go on for several years [words indistinct] the present situation. [Words indistinct]. The purpose of the extradition is to put them on trial and to mete out to them the strongest possible sentence for having attacked a peaceful people with a democratic tradition, Minister Carmona stated.

SALVADORAN DEFENSE MINISTER ON MILITARY ALLIANCE

PA040228 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2247 GMT 3 Nov 81

[Text] San Jose, 3 Nov (ACAN-EFE) -- Salvadoran Defense Minister Col Jose Guillermo Garcia said that the northern Central American (Honduras, Guatemala and El Salvador) military triangle is a defense weapon against communism in the area.

The minister admitted the existence of the triangle during an interview with newsman Eduardo Enrique Leiva, broadcast today in this city by the "Noticias Monumental" newscast.

Three weeks ago Guatemalan Chief of Staff Brig Gen Benedicto Lucas Garcia denied the existence of a military alliance between Honduras, Guatemala and El Salvador to act jointly against the leftist guerrillas in northern Central America.

Colonel Garcia believes that the Salvadoran guerrillas are in a military decline and have, therefore, changed their tactics to destroy economic objectives, such as the blowing up of factories and sources of employment, as well as the Oro Bridge and other bridges which have no military importance but are of great economic value.

Under these conditions and lacking popular support, the guerrillas are maintained "only by foreign aid, the weapons and ammunition arriving from abroad and by the funds sent by the Soviet communist-Marxist bloc via Cuba and Nicaragua," the Salvadoran minister said. The army will defeat the guerrillas, the colonel added, "but we must neutralize the aid funneled from communism abroad."

The northern triangle military organization will control and neutralize foreign aid to the guerrillas, the Salvadoran defense minister said. He also believes that the triangle is a logical step, "because when there is danger people must unite."

The colonel says that it is not wise to remain outside of this integration and makes an implicit warning to Costa Rica: "There are some who unite and others who do not see the danger until they experience the reality which exists in Central America."

More specifically, Garcia says: "Costa Rica is a country which I admire because of its democracy and people. It is a great country. However, it is not exempt from the terrible communist cancer."

According to the Salvadoran colonel, the armed struggle has caused 30,000 victims in his country. Of these only 1,300 were military, 4,000 were guerrillas and the remaining 24,700 "were persons who had nothing to do with the conflict."

Regarding elections, the colonel says that the army is committed to respect its results, because elections "are the first step toward democratization of the country and the only feasible solution for El Salvador."

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY AGREES ON COLON DEVALUATION

PA031548 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 3 Nov 81

[Excerpts] The Legislative Assembly has finally reached a decision on the devaluation of the colon. We repeat: The plenary of the Legislative Assembly has made a decision on the devaluation of the colon.

A few minutes ago, with votes from National Liberation Party, United People and the Christian Democratic Party, the Assembly approved a devaluation establishing the value of the colon at 20 to $1.

Commercial and private banks will still maintain the purchase price of the dollar at 30 colones and the sales price at 38.18 colones.

EL SALVADOR

CCE ISSUES POLITICAL PARTIES FORUM REGULATIONS

PA030230 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 2 Nov 81 pp 2, 54

[Text] The rules for the forum of political parties to be held on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of this week have been revealed by the Central Electoral Council [CCE] to orient the delegates of each parties. The regulation reads as follows:

Article 1. The registered political parties and the political parties in the process of being legally authorized agree to hold a political forum to analyze the sociopolitical situation that will permit the electoral event and to discuss the drafts of the electoral law and the law of political parties.

Article 2. This event will be sponsored by the CCE. Its president and in his absence any other principal member assigned by him will chair the event.

Article 3. Each political party will designate two duly authorized principal delegates and two alternates to participate in the event. The alternates will act only in replacement of the principals. These parties may also name three observers and/or advisers without vote or voice.

Article 4. The sessions will begin at the time scheduled with whichever delegates are present.

Article 5. The quorum will be established by the delegates present at the time when the session is scheduled to begin.

Article 6. The event will be held on 3, 4, 5, November of this year and it may be extended up to 2 more days if parties in attendance or the CCE so desire.

Article 7. For efficiency, the forum will be divided in working and plenary sessions. The sessions will run from 0900 to 1200 and from 1600 to 1900.

Article 8. The debates will be methodical and clear. The bills will first be discussed in general and then by articles or chapters.

Article 9. Once the debate on an issue has been started, no interruptions will be allowed. No debate on a new issue may be initiated without the delegates' approval. As a general rule, a delegate may speak as many as three times during the debate on each issue. The first time the delegate may not speak for more than 30 minutes, the second time for not more than 15 minutes, and the third time for not more than 10 minutes for the sociopolitical aspects. In the discussions of the draft bills not more than 15, 10 and 5 minutes, respectively, are allowed. Nevertheless, under exceptional circumstances the chairman may authorize a delegate to speak more times.

After consultation with the participants, the chairman may conclude the debate and may order that an issue be voted on when it has been sufficiently discussed. The motions will be voted upon in the order in which they were presented.

Article 10. The responsibilities of the chairman are as follows:

A. To convene, adjourn, reconvene and close the sessions;
B. To call for any regular or special session;
C. To direct the debates during the sessions, making pertinent observations;
D. To grant the floor to delegates in the order requested;
E. To adjourn the session in case of serious order disturbance; and,
F. To order observers to clear the premises in case of any disturbance.

Article 11. Each working session will appoint from among its members a secretary and/or a moderator. This position must be rotated among the delegates of the various parties.

Article 12. The duties of the participants are:
A. To behave at all times with the propriety befitting their representation; and,
B. To be on time for the sessions.

Article 13. The participants will not be allowed to:
A. Leave a session without the previous permission of the chairman who will grant it or deny it according to his best judgement; and,
B. Yield the floor to another delegate except with the authorization of the chairman. At no time will the floor be yielded to persons who are not delegates.

Article 14. The parties participating in the political forum will have a right to one vote each which they will exercise through one of their delegates.

Article 15. The conclusions and recommendations will be adopted by simple majority of the parties present. Those motions over which a unanimous agreement or a consensus is not reached upon will be so noted in the document containing the conclusions and recommendations as well as the opinions of each party on each particular case. The same will apply in case of a tie.

Article 16. The CCE may amend the provisions of this regulation in case of omission or of ambiguity and will rule in the cases regulated by it.

DEFENSE MINISTRY CHIEFS TRAVEL TO U.S. FOR TALKS

PA040238 Paris AFP in Spanish 1952 GMT 3 Nov 81

[Text] San Salvador, 3 Nov (AFP) -- Salvadoran Defense Minister Col Guillermo Garcia and General Staff Chief Col Rafael Flores Lima left today for Washington to pay an official visit of several days, it was learned today from military sources.

The two Salvadoran military chiefs will meet with various U.S. officials, including Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger. Although the source did not say so, it is possible that President Napoleon Duarte's government will request additional military aid. It was explained that Colonel Garcia will speak at the 14th Conference of American Armies to be held in Washington this week.

Although the details of the agenda of the two military chiefs was not given, it was said that they will meet with senators and with representatives of the Pentagon's Commission for Latin American Affairs. In unofficial circles, it was said that one of the principal objectives of the visit by Garcia and Flores is to explain the Salvadoran political and military situation to the United States and to ask for additional aid.

Meanwhile, a military spokesman said today that the counterinsurgency actions being carried out in San Vicente Department, in the country's central area, "are practically finished but that the final results have not yet been compiled."

FMLN REPORTS 2 ATTACKS ON ANASTASIO AQUINO FRONT

PA031719 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 1200 GMT 3 Nov 81

[Excerpt] A few minutes ago Radio Venceremos transmitted the successful action of our people in La Esperanza Canton, San Sebastian jurisdiction, in San Vicente Department, through an operation carried out jointly with the revolutionary organizations that make up the FMLN. Following is the report of the operation by Elmer Guzman as received from the Anastasio Aquino paracentral front:

On 31 October at 0450: start of attack against the two La Esperanza military garrisons, supported by machinegun fire, mortars, and snipers. A group of political companeros using megaphones harangued the population while fighting continued for 7 and 1/2 hours on the approaches to the northwest garrison, heavily protected with seven pillboxes, equipped for long-resistance stands. At 1120, two of our squads destroyed two pillboxes as our groups, supported by rifle fire, entered the post and fought the enemy units in other pillboxes, damaging another.

At the second garrison, our attack was repelled by reinforcements from Las Rosas Canton sent to help the enemy. Our group was able to successfully foil the reinforcement attack and retreated to continue the siege on the post. This post lost a pillbox by mortar fire, while the siege on the enemy installations ended at 2000. The confirmed casualties to the enemy were six dead and three wounded, three pillboxes destroyed and nine damaged; while our forces suffered one death and a slightly wounded man. Our dead Companero Walter fell during the retreat of our forces.

HAVANA REPORTS FMLN ACTIONS, COL MAJANO COMMENTS

PA032107 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 3 Nov 81

[Text] Radio Venceremos, voice of the FMLN of El Salvador, has reported that FMLN guerrillas inflicted 16 casualties on an army contingent that was ambushed on (Cintura) road, west of San Salvador.

The troops of the dictatorship suffered six additional casualties when rebel groups attacked a military vehicle at km 70 of the Pan-American Highway.

Meanwhile, Salvadoran Col Adolfo Manajo, who went underground in March, has said that the Salvadoran Armed Forces will not be able to stop the guerrilla movement.

Majano told the Mexican weekly PROCESO that the military-Christian Democratic regime is traitorous and one of the most repressive dictatorships in the world. Last December, Colonel Majano was relieved of all his military responsibilities.

NICARAGUA

ENVOY TO U.S. TO DELIVER PROTEST NOTE TO ENDERS

PA032232 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 3 Nov 81

[Text] Today the Nicaraguan Government will demand from the most reactionary circles of the White House an explanation for the slanderous charges made against our Sandinist revolution which said that there had been Cuban soldiers in Nicaragua.

Without a single proof to back up the slanderous lies which the U.S. administration has hurled against the Cuban revolutionary government, the State Department and Alexander Haig, the inventor of the big lie, are again challenged to explain the slanderous report that 500 Cuban soldiers had been in Nicaragua on their way to El Salvador to sabotage the Oro Bridge.

Arturo Cruz Porras, Nicaraguan ambassador to the United States, left for Washington yesterday carrying the protest note. He will probably deliver it today to Thomas O. Enders, the deputy assistant secretary of state for Latin American affairs, who also has been known lately for hurling certain unfriendly charges against our process.

The content of the letter of the revolutionary government confirms the desire to continue the dialogue established by our process and also emphatically states that at no time in our history have Cuban soldiers been in our territory.

JUNTA MEMBERS ON 'CONSPIRACY' AGAINST REVOLUTION

PA032353 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0030 GMT 3 Nov 81

["Face the People" program from Omotepe Island, with government junta members Daniel Ortega, Sergio Ramirez and Rafael Cordova Rivas; date not given]

[Excerpts] (Ortega] This "Face the People" program that we are holding here with you is taking place at a time when our revolution is being threatened, particularly by forces from abroad. It is taking place at a time when our revolution is being threatened primarily by the government of a powerful country, the United States.

We are saying this because some days ago, U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig made charges of Cuban interference in Central America, of Cuban interference in Nicaragua. He also reported an arms buildup in Nicaragua and reported that Nicaragua is sending weapons to the revolutionaries in El Salvador.

We must say that the soldiers Cuba has sent to Nicaragua number not 600, but more than 600; and we all know them here in Nicaragua. They are teachers; they are doctors who have come to help our people. Therefore, we view those charges as a provocation designed to justify any measures that may be taken against Cuba, Nicaragua or the revolutionaries in El Salvador. That is how we interpret those statements, which do nothing to further the efforts that the United States claims to be making to improve relations with Nicaragua, or to further the real efforts that Nicaragua is making to improve the relations between the two countries.

We were saying, therefore, that these statements by official representatives of the United States justify our country's efforts to find ways to defend itself, to arm itself and above all, to incorporate its people into the combative defense effort. This also explains why a militia battalion was successfully established here on Omotepe Island, a battalion that has already completed its political and military training and is ready to defend our fatherland and our revolution. [applause]

[Question] On behalf of the Sandinist Defense Committee of Omotepe we feel that in the face of the counterrevolutionary maneuvers of the politicized group of the Higher Council of Private Enterprise, COSEP, and the group of Eli Altamirano [words indistinct]. [applause]

We hereby express our support for the National Directorate and the government junta. We condemn the provocative actions of this group, no matter who is involved. For this reason we want to know why no (?action) has been taken against Robelo, who is the imperialists' main pawn for attacking us internally or externally with strength which equals or exceeds that of the Somozist guard. Robelo cannot be allowed to continue his activities. He cannot continue to endanger this revolution of the poor. He cannot be allowed to continue to harm us.

We believe that it is time to tell him: Enough of counterrevolution. If he does not like the Nicaragua of today, let him leave. We do not need him. On the contrary, he is a hindrance.

[?Ramirez] We wish to take advantage of the opportunity provided by this question to call attention to a number of matters. It is not just the case of Mr Robelo; the case of COSEP; or of the Labor Action and Unity Federation, CAUS; but it is a broader issue in our opinion. At present, there is a veritable international conspiracy, as we must call it, against the Sandinist people's revolution.

As Commander Ortega explained, U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig has said that a plan for Cuba has already been prepared and only requires President Reagan's approval.

Moreover, Haig's second in command, a Mr Enders who was here a few months ago, again repeated the story that our army is too large, that we have tanks and Soviet planes. He made a number of statements that were designed to generate fear in the international public with regard to the Nicaraguan revolution.

If we join all these pieces together, we will realize that some people or groups here in Nicaragua are functioning as puppets in a real conspiracy that is actually being directed by certain people and power grroups within the U.S. Government who are unhappy with the existence of a revolution in Nicaragua, who are unhappy with the existence of a people's government in Nicaragua, who are opposed to the presence of an armed militia that is armed and trained to defend the revolution. Thus, they feel that the only way to defeat the revolution is by instilling fear in us.

The interests of the revolution run completely contrary to these ideas. The people here have to be armed, ready and in combat positions to defend the revolution against the large-scale international conspiracy that is being prepared and in which the members of COSEP and CAUS and Robelo are participating. The only allegation that they could make [in their defense] is that their involvement in the conspiracy is unconscious. However, they would have to prove this, because we have been pointing out to them that a conspiracy exists against Nicaraguan sovereignty and against the integrity of our territory and that when the aggression comes, it will not be directed against the FSLN, but against Nicaragua as a country. These individuals should put aside their private economic interests and realize that this is probably their last chance to demonstrate that they also have the right to be Nicarguans. These individuals should realize, along with the people and all the workers of Nicaragua, they must also defend the right to be Nicaraguan before they run the risk of losing it.

CAUS MEMBERS ARRESTED AT FABRITEX COMPANY PLANT

[Text] Spokesmen for the labor union at the Fabritex Company reported yesterday that four additional members of their organization had been arrested by the local police and that no charge had been filed against them. Three of those arrested are leaders of the union. Those arrested were (Francisco Jiron), (Marco Siria), (Roger Quintana) and (Silverio Perez). (Perez) is the head of the union committee. The four workers were arrested at the factory by the local police.

The union spokesmen said that the reason for the arrest may be the fact that the workers are all members of the Labor Action and Unity Federation, CAUS. The spokesmen also indicated that the police have kept the factor under close surveillance since Sunday morning, when they prevented 40 workers who had come to work overtime from entering the facility.

Temporary Closure of Fabritex

PA031446 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 2 Nov 81

[Text] A harsh blow was dealt to the preduction battle by the irresponsible activists of the Labor Action and Unity Federation [CAUS] at Fabritex, a people's property area [APP] enterprise which, following several administrative problems, was temporarily closed. The People's Industrial Corporation will take charge of the industry during its closure, which leaves 1,000 workers unemployed.

Workers' lack of discipline and bad administration brought about this financial disaster averaging losses of 2 million cordobas per month. Between January and May 1981 the losses totaled 17 million cordobas, while Fabritex had debts of almost 220 million cordobas. This forced the National Cotton Enterprise, ENAL, to embargo some 1,000 bales of cotton because Fabritex failed to pay a 20-million cordoba debt.

This deplorable situation is perfectly understandable when we recall that the Fabritex workers were misled by members of CAUS and by the so-called "Communist Party" and by Eli Altamirano, who scorned the production battle and made contradictory economy claims which disrupted the state of emergency established by the revolution and contributed to the general deterioration of the enterprise, in both the quality and the profitability of the product. This deterioration became unbearable to the point of forcing the temporary closing pending a future reopening.

EDUCATION MINISTER SAYS CUBAN TEACHERS NECESSARY

PA030454 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 3 Nov 81

[Text] Minister of Education Carlos Tunnerman maintains that the presence of Cuban teachers in Nicaragua is necessary. Minister Tunnerman said that the presence of the 2,000 Cuban teachers who are cooperating with the education campaigns of the revolutionary government is necessary.

Tunnerman made this statement after returning from Panama where he participated in the 7th meeting of Central American education ministers in Panama City, Panama.

The education minister explained that the 2,000 Cuban teachers are teaching 50,000 Nicaraguan peasant children and that they are receiving no payment for their services. They work in rural and remote areas of the country where we are in no position to solve the deficit of teachers with Nicaraguan teachers, Tunnerman said.

The Sandinist government has an eternal debt with these unselfish teachers, the minister said. He made it clear that none of them is indoctrinating the students.

MILITIAS FROM SIX UNIVERSITIES ORDERED TO REPORT

PA032227 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 3 Nov 81

[Text] All militia members of the Ruben Dario, Carlos Fonseca, Juan Francisco Paguaga, Ricardo Morales, UCA and DESNIC [expansions not given] Universities are ordered to report on Wednesday, 4 November, at 1500 to the Ruben Dario University campus.

This is an order.

Sandinist People's Militias General Staff
National Union of Nicaraguan Students Defense Commission

BRIEFS

CZECHOSLOVAK, NETHERLANDS LOANS -- According to the OFFICIAL GAZETTE No 238, the junta of the Government of National Reconstruction has ratified the $10-million credit agreement signed by the Ceskoslovenka Obchodni Banka, A.S. of the CSSR and the Central Bank of Nicaragua in Prague on 7 May 1981. It adds that the funds will be used to purchase production equipment and machinery in the CSSR. The same gazette reports that the junta has approved an approximately $12-million loan from the De Nerdelandse Investeringsbank Voor Ontwikkelingsladen N.V. of the Netherlands. The funds will be used to finance the purchase of goods or services for the development of Nicaragua. [Manague LA PRENSA in Spanish 24 Oct 81 p 7 PA]

BLUEFIELDS BATTALION -- The battalion of the Sandinist People's Militias from Bluefields will leave Sunday, 1 November, to receive its military and political training somewhere in Nicaragua. It is composed of teachers, peasants of nearby communities and members of mass organizations. Its 400 members are a cross section of an organized people. [Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 31 Oct 81 PA]

RETURN OF BATTALION 40-93 -- Battalion 40-93 returned to Managua yesterday after training in the mountains. It is composed of approximately 600 members. [Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 31 Oct 81 PA]

GRANMA REPLIES TO ARROGANT U.S. POLICY

FL021853 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 2 Nov 81

["Text" of article entitled "We Will Resist at All Costs the Yankee Government's Overbearing, Arrogant, Fascist Policy" published on 2 November in the newspaper GRANMA]

[Text] A new plot unleashed by Yankee imperialism to create conditions conducive to an aggression against our fatherland and to intervene militarily in Central America has become evident in recent months.

In the face of the mounting revolutionary movement in Central America, Cuba's unwavering attitude in rejecting imperialist threats and pressures, the steady deterioration of the U.S. domestic economy and the growing opposition elicited by the U.S. interventionist policy in El Salvador, the Reagan administration has deceived the U.S. public by disseminating false charges against Cuba through unscrupulous journalists and mendacious remarks by U.S. Government officials who claim that Cuba has been allegedly sending arms, military advisers and combat troops to Nicaragua and El Salvador.

The campaign lauched by the reactionary, belligerent group that controls the U.S. executive branch has taken a new, dangerous course by initiating negotiations with major foreign governments to threaten to carry out aggressions against our country in an escalation of hostility which resembles the actions taken by the U.S. Government in April 1961, when the invasion of our country by an army of mercenaries who were recruited, financed, trained, armed, transported and supported militarily by official U.S. forces became imminent.

Just as the administrations of Eisenhower and Kennedy did on that occasion, the Reagan administration has been creating an atmosphere conducive to an aggression. It distorts facts, it pretends to ignore the denunciations of the Cuban revolutionary government about the essence of the challenges made by Cuba with the clear objective of confusing both the world and the U.S. public and of sounding out the reactions of other governments.

While our government challenges the Reagan administration to produce proof of its false accusations against Cuba, the imperialist representatives avoid responding to the Cuban challenges and remain hidden and ready awaiting for the appropriate time to attack. Yet events have been instrumental in uncovering the shamelessness and lack of moral scruples of the ruling group in the United States. To prove this, it would be sufficient to examine some of the forms of this imperialist plot. These are in no way comprehensive of everything they have said against Cuba but an example which is, however, adequately illustrative.

On 30 July, at a secret session of the U.S. Senate Armed Services Committee, U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig said that there was strong evidence that some of the material provided by the Soviet Union to Cuba as military aid was being reshipped to Central America. On 3 August, State Department spokesman Dean Fischer claimed that the already bulky Cuban arsenal had reached a level which was beyond the true Cuban defense needs.

Early in August, Mrs Jeane Kirkpatrick, the Yankee representative to the United Nations, toured several Latin American countries where she slandered and threatened Cuba and attempted to justify the imperialist intervention in Central America. On 8 August, she said in Chile that her government intended to dissuade Cuba with every available means. She added: The U.S. Government is aware that a direct attack must be launched against Cuban expansionism.

On 11 August, in a statement before the American Bar Association, Mr Haig accused Cuba and the Soviet Union of aggravating tensions in Central America and southern Africa, charging them, among other things, with sending Soviet weapons to Nicaragua and El Salvador. On that occasion, Mr Haig claimed that Cuba had 1,500 military advisers in Nicaragua. On that same day, Rear Adm Robert P. McKenzie, commander of the U.S. Naval Forces in the Caribbean, said that the Cuban Navy was acquiring such an offensive capability that it could block navigation and charged Cuba with spreading terrorism, revolution and communism.

In a written reply to press questions, the State Department stated on 20 August that since 1980 Cuba had developed a broad, sophisticated underground strategy designed to stimulate armed violence and the destabilization of its neighbors.

In a statement to the ABC television network, Mr Haig reiterated on 23 August his threats against Cuba and, on justifying the U.S. Armed Forces' downing of two Libyan planes, he said the time has come for the international community to stop tolerating the illegal acts carried out by either Libya, Cuba or the USSR.

On the following day, 24 August, Mr Haig again made accusations against Cuba. This time he told the newspaper CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR that the mounting activities of Salvadoran guerrillas were prompted by a steady supply of arms and by the activities of advisers who follow orders from outside, primarily from Cuba. He added: We continue to believe that we still have a long way to go before having a clash with Cuba.

At a press conference held in Washington on 28 August, the Yankee secretary of state stated that the United States, for the first time, believed that Cuban military advisers were taking direct actions in certain areas of El Salvador to support the guerrillas operations command. Haig added: We are considering a broad range of political, economic and security -- meaning military -- actions, including ways to cope with the source [of the above advisers] -- Cuba.

In an official statement released on 1 September, the State Department stated that U.S. intelligence services had confirmed the presence of some Cuban advisers among Salvadoran revolutionary forces, noting that for the time being there was no precise estimates on the total number of Cuban advisers in El Salvador.

The above is a succinct chronological report on how imperialist representatives have attempted to sow among the uninformed the idea that Cuba has increased without any justification and with sinister purposes its defense facilities -- thus overlooking more than 20 years of systematic imperialist aggressions against our country; that Cuba is to blame for the economic, political and social conflicts taking place in this continent and in other areas of the Third World -- as though it were possible to conceal the consequences of centuries of colonial domination and of tens of years of imperialist domination; that Cuba intervenes in the domestic affairs of other countries in this continent -- thus attempting to erase with a stroke of the pen the U.S. occupation of the territories of Cuba, Nicaragua, Dominican Republic, Mexico, Panama and Haiti; and that Cuba, therefore, must be punished, thus turning deaf ears to the demands voiced by the international and U.S. public to put an end to the imperialist aggressive, warmongering policy.

In the face of the evident aggressive intentions of imperialism, the Cuban revolutionary government issued on 3 September a declaration in which, referring to the allegations made on 30 July by the spokesmen of imperialism about the redistribution in Central America of arms received by Cuba and on 1 September about the alleged presence of Cuban military advisers among the Salvadoran revolutionary forces, it charge that the process of the brutal imperialist intervention in El Salvador was leading to those cynical lies in an attempt to justify fresh genocidal acts against that heroic people and other aggressive acts carried out in the international field in keeping with the insane, desperate policy of the current Yankee administration.

In its 3 September declaration, the Cuban revolutionary government also stated that the alleged redistribution of Cuban arms in Central America is an absolute lie. It also termed a shameless, baseless lie the charge that there were Cuban advisers with the Salvadoran patriots. It added that there had never been -- and there is none now -- a single Cuban military or civilian adviser with the revolutionary forces that are fighting in El Salvador.

The Cuban declaration concluded by stating: Let us challenge Mr. Haig and his government before the world and the U.S. public to produce the slightest proof of their allegations. The Cuban revolution has never lied. Let Mr Haig and the unscrupulous, slanderous U.S. Government demonstrate that they could say the same.

Yet the United States has not responded to the Cuban challenge. According to an AFP report, in response to persistent questions by the press, the State Department spokesman limited himself to repeating what the State Department had said 2 days earlier. That is the State Department neither produced any evidence nor made the slightest effort to substantiate its false accusations. It did, however, showing complete disrespect for the public, reiterate his earlier remarks. In other words, he repeated the same lies.

Adm Harry Train, chief of the U.S. Atlantic fleet, stated on 11 September that Cuba and the USSR are the main threats to Latin American security and stability. This troglodyte himself had said in Caracas on 25 March that the United States was capable of imposing a military blockade on Cuba as a reprisal for the Cuban intervention in the Salvadoran affairs.

In his opening speech at the 68th IPU Conference on 15 September, Comrade Fidel Castro, president of the Councils of State and Ministers, again challenged the U.S. officials. After denying the U.S. false charges about the supply of arms to Central America and the presence of Cuban advisers in El Salvador, Fidel said: We have challenged the U.S. Government to produce the slightest proof of its allegations and it has not been able to utter a single word. At that time, the U.S. Government again failed to respond to the Cuban challenge.

Yet on that very date, the State Department announced that it will not grant entry visas to the United States to three Cuban officials invited to attend an event -- which was to take place in the United States -- to discuss the status and prospects of Cuban-U.S. relations.

The escalation of the aggressions against Cuba has not subsided. On 23 September, President Reagan's National Security Adviser Richard Allen and Assistant Secretary of State Thomas Enders announced the decision to begin radio broadcasts against Cuba, which the French news agency AFP regarded as a virtual declaration of broadcasting war.

Speaking before the Dominican Congress on 12 October, Vice President George Bush brazenly said that Nicaragua still had the chance of ridding itself of the chains which the 5,000 advisers sent by Castro have been placing on it.

AFP reported that on 13 October an adviser of President Reagan -- who asked not to be identified -- said that the United States believed that Cuba continues and will continue to supply arms to the Salvadoran rebels. On the following day, Bush reiterated his threats in Colombia by stating, according to a U.S. official news agency, that the United States will not adopt a passive attitude while foreign powers are brutally intervening in the domestic affairs of our peoples.

An article was published on 19 October by journalists Evans and Novak on the alleged presence of between 500 to 600 Cuban soldiers in Nicaragua which, it was said, was part of an action designed to set up a Marxist government in the eastern part of El Salvador.

In his closing speech to the second congress of the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution on 24 October, our commander in chief denounced this new provocation by the U.S. reactionary groups by noting the way in which they manipulate some journalists to write articles of this nature with the clear purpose of justifying their intervention in El Salvador, their threats and their aggressive measures against Cuba. Fidel added: Imperialists, you are liars. We have no other choice but to deny your remarks because Cuba has not sent a single elite soldier or any other kind to Nicaragua. Never has Cuba sent troops to Nicaragua. That is a big lie. We have the right and the duty to deny it. It is a lie from beginning to end. It is a total lie.

Upon receiving reliable information that Mr Haig had written to other governments to uphold the slanderous assertions of the above journalists and to issue fresh threats of attacks and aggressions against Cuba, the Cuban revolutionary government released a declaration on 28 October challenging Mr Haig, this time to say without hesitations, subterfuge or stammerings whether he can keep saying that Cuba landed between 500 and 600 soldiers in Nicaragua, whether the United States has proof of this claim, whether he communicated this report to other governments, saying that he had proof and coupling his lies with his well-known, coarse threats. Let him say on what day, what time, in what planes these men landed as he claims. Let him present proof.

The reply given on that day by the State Department spokesman was an example of hesitation, subterfuge and stammering. He said: It is our traditional policy to neither confirm or deny this type of information -- that of Evans and Novak -- but we continue to seriously observe the large supply of arms and advisers to Nicaragua. Reports of this nature urge us to supply military and economic supply to countries of that region. We will consider only what has been stated thus far.

On the following day, 29 October, questioned by newsmen and sidestepping again the repeated Cuban challenge, Mr Haig repeated the same lies and threatened fresh aggressive measures against our fatherland.

Last Friday GRANMA reaffirmed the Cuban challenge and rejected, in the name of our people, the Yankee threats. In our editorial we demanded the U.S. Government to respond, in clear terms, to the Cuban Government's explicit challenge if it can. Let it stop shamelessly deceiving the U.S. people and world public.

On Friday afternoon, State Department spokesman (Alan Ronberg) again talked about Cuba. He was also unable to answer the firm, clear, explicit questions outlined by our revolutionary government. This man, however, was more explicit in referring to the imperialist designs against our country. Showing disregard for international law, this man confessed that among the fresh acts carried out by imperialism against Cuba are, aside from the forthcoming radio broadcasts against our country, measures designed to reinforce the blockade. Among these measures he noted that this year alone the Yankee government had already cut all trade with 12 enterprises which were charged with having commercial ties with Cuba. He added that further steps were being considered.

Nearly 2 months have elapsed since Cuba categorically rejected the mendacious Yankee accusations and challenged the U.S. Government officials to produce the proof they claim to have. Nearly 2 months of cynical and shameless silence, of total disrespect for the international public and for the U.S. people themselves -- who are entitled to not being grossly deceived -- have elapsed. Nearly 2 months have elapsed and no proof has been produced. Nearly 2 months have elapsed in which, however, the spree of lies against Cuba has not stopped.

The world public and the American people are entitled to demand explanations from Imperialism and the U.S. Government officials must give clear, straightforward replies. The campaign of lies unleashed by Washington is designed to justify fresh aggressions against Cuba and the Central American peoples. It is designed to justify the insane warmongering policy conducted by the current U.S. administration and to cover up its mounting military intervention in El Salvador.

Imperialists consider lies as instruments of their policy of war: Intervention and aggression. This is why it is necessary to unmask it and to defeat it. The current U.S. Government officials may become -- since they have demonstrated that this is what they want -- the biggest liars in history, true followers of Hitler and Goebbels but they have no right to irresponsibly endanger world peace as their Nazi predecessors did in the past. We will resist at all costs this overbearing, arrogant, fascist policy. More than once we have demonstrated that we do not fear the empire at all. Like Comrade Fidel put it in his speech to the world parliamentarians at the 68th IPU Conference, we will preserve peace if the enemies of peace are aware that we are ready to die for the sake of it instead of yielding to blackmail and fear. Cuba practices this and sets the example.

USSR AMBASSADOR HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE

FL302353 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 30 Oct 81

[Text] We have struggled, are struggling and will always struggle for the accomplishment of all our peace proposals, USSR Ambassador to Cuba Vitaliy Vorotnikov stated in a press conference in Havana on the occasion of the 64th anniversary of the Great October Revolution. Today's world situation has suddenly worsened and the imperialist aggressive circles, above all in the United States, are attempting to check the process of detente and disrupt the strategic military balance with the aim to attaining superiority.

In statements to a group of newsmen at the Soviet Embassy in our country, Vorotnikov noted that the present U.S. administration is trying to cover up its plans of aggression by imposing on the world the false myth of a Soviet military threat. The Soviet ambassador referred to Cuba's great contribution to the struggle for peace and noted that it is conducting a policy of active opposition to the imperialist aggression in an effort to preserve and strengthen international security.

Comrade Fidel Castro's appeal at the second congress of the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution against the threat of an international holocaust was convincing, intransigent and crystal clear. I would like to recall, he added, that expressing the feelings of all our people, Comrade Brezhnev was very precise when he stressed from the podium of the 26th CPSU Congress that in the present, as in the past, the USSR is on the side of socialist Cuba and fully supports its policy of principles. The Soviet Union, he noted, has been, is and will continue to be solidary with Cuba.

FOREIGN DELEGATIONS MEET WITH CUBAN OFFICIALS

Miret, Montane With Palestinians

FL021202 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 2 Nov 81

[Text] (Taishir Kubab), member of the Politburo and the official charged with foreign relations of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP] has visited our country at the head of a PFLP delegation at the invitation of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC]. Pedro Miret, member of the PCC Politburo, held official talks with the Palestinian delegation in which bilateral relations between the two organizations were examined. The Palestinian comrades expressed their support for and solidarity with the struggle of the Latin America and the Caribbean peoples, especially for the one waged by the Cuban people against the aggressions and threats of Yankee imperialism.

Speaking in the name of our party, Pedro Miret reaffirmed Cuba's unwavering support for the just cause of the Palestinian people in securing their legitimate national rights, including the establishment of an independent state under the leadership of the PLO, their only genuine representative. The Palestinian delegation was also received by Jesus Montane, alternate member of the PCC Politburo and Secretariat. After touring places of political, economic and social interest in the Provinces of Havana and Holguin, the distinguished visitors left Cuba.

Talks With Finland

FL030147 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 3 Nov 81

[Text] The sixth meeting of the Joint Finland-Cuba Economic, Industrial and Scientific-Technical Committee opened today in the Protocol Room of the Sierra Maestra Hotel. The delegations are headed by (Pavlio Pas), director for foreign trade at the Finnish Foreign Ministry, and Raul Taladrid, [departmental] director at Cuba's State Committee for Economic Cooperation. The delegation heads emphasized their mutual interest in developing economic relations, trade and cooperation.

GDR Agreement

FL031119 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 3 Nov 81

[Excerpts] Cuba has opened cooperation talks with Finland and has signed a cooperation agreement with the GDR in the sphere of labor and social security. [At the Protocol Hall of the Sierra Maestra Hotel], a protocol was signed between the GDR's State Secretariat for Labor and Wages and the Cuban State Committee for Labor and Social Security. By virtue of that agreement, nearly 2,000 Cuban young workers, who will be selected from discharged personnel of the armed forces and work centers, will go to the GDR to train for occupations in diverse industrial branches. Currently, another 5,200 young workers are training in more than 72 enterprises of that fraternal country.

ANTIGUA-BARBUDA

MINISTER BIRD COMMENTS ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

FL030027 Bridgetown CANA in English 2246 GMT 2 Nov 81

[Excerpts] St Johns, Antigua, 2 Nov (CANA) -- Lester Bird, the foreign minister of Antigua and Barbuda, which became independent yesterday, has been invited to Washington to put to U.S. officials the new nation's view on how the Reagan administration should handle developmental assistance to it and the other less developed countries (LDC's) of the east Caribbean, Mr Bird has disclosed here.

Foreign Minister Bird also disclosed to reporters that the Antigua and Barbuda Government had concurred with a U.S. suggestion to upgrade the American Consulate here to a full embassy.

On the question of diplomatic relations with Cuba, he said it was something that "in formulating our foreign policy, we will have to consider." Antigua and Barbuda, he said, recognized Cuba as a regional neighbor, but the government here had some concern about its modus operandi. However, at this point it was only apartheid South Africa that Antigua has definitely ruled out for friendly relations, Mr Bird said.

His government was not fearful of a revolution here. General elections last year, which his ruling labor party won handsomely, had shown that Antiguans and Barbudans were "not disposed to any Marxist-Leninist government." A coup d'etat, he said, was another matter, but the government was intent of strengthening its security and upgrading the small army here.

Mr Bird said that he had not discussed security with Mr Clark. "There is no indication that they (the Americans) want to enter a security treaty with us," he said.

BAHAMAS

WORKERS PARTY WITHDRAWS REQUEST TO JOIN PLP

FL031440 Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 29 Oct 81 p 1

[By Athena Damianos]

[Excerpts] The Workers Party today withdrew its application for membership in the Progressive Liberal Party [PLP]. After voting out leader Philip Miller during a meeting of the Central Committee last night.

Rodney Moncur, the party's outspoken chairman, was named to replace him, while Secretary-General Donovan Dorsett volunteered to resign, and was then suspended from his post.

The Workers Party's announcement that it had withdrawn its application ended days of stormy street corner meetings between residents of Black Village home of the Workers Party who felt they had been betrayed by the leadership.

Last night, Mr Miller was voted out for engineering the move on Monday to join the PLP. The night before, Mr Moncur was burned in effigy by Black Village residents, who were shocked over the move and angered that they had not been consulted.

And making his first public statement since the matter began on Monday, Moncur urged his generals to tell members in their areas that the Workers Party had "redictated itself and that this blunder will never be allowed to occur again."

"We have not betrayed the people of this country, particularly the grassroots, the underprivileged and the young," Mr Moncur said, "It is now the responsibility of the various generals of the party to convey to their supporters that the leadership of the Workers Party has been returned to normal." "No leader must be too proud or too egotistical that he can not apologize to his people for a major blunder. We apologize to all of our supporters throughout the Bahamaland."

CURACAO

SOCIALIST COMMENTS ON INDEPENDENCE, EXPLOITATION

PA040030 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 3 Nov 81

[(Nestor Nunez) interview with (Eugene Godfrey), members of the Action Committee of the Socialist Movement of Curacao; date and place not given -- recorded]

[Text] [(Godfrey)] At present, my country is experiencing a situation of colonialist exploitation. At present the islands are preparing for independence. At the same time, there is another development: the political parties of Aruba who speak for the interests of the capitalist class of Aruba. They have promoted the idea of a separate independence with the intention of breaking up the federative constellation that exists at present.

None of the other traditional political parties of the other islands has set forth a clear position regarding real independence for our peoples. Our organization, the Action Committee of the Socialist Movement, has taken the firm and unyielding position of demanding the total liberation of our country. In this framework, and through this path we continue to view, analyze and implement our policy for the future of our people. At the same time, to give a general overview of the social and economic situation in our country, we have to say that unemployment in our country, particularly in Curacao, is approximately 23 percent and all the well-known phenomena of a situation in which there is capitalistic exploitation, the exploitation of man by man are present there. Unemployment, as one of the previously mentioned phenomena, exists along with other factors such as the crime rate, which is gradually increasing.

[Question] We would like to know the final political objective of the Action Committee of the Socialist Movement of Curacao.

[Answer] At this time, the Socialist Movement's Action Committee is developing a solid and disciplined organization of the working class, with the objective of presenting to our people a clear alternative to the present political situation. According to our declaration of principles, in which we express ourselves very clearly, we seek total liberation in order to establish socialism in our country.

DOMINICA

CHARLES SCORES OPPONENTS IN ANNIVERSARY SPEECH

FL032255 Bridgetown CANA in English 2200 GMT 3 Nov 81

[Excerpts] Roseau, Dominica, 3 Nov (CANA) -- Dominica's prime minister, Eugenia Charles, today called for continued unity among her countrymen and urged them to ensure that the coming year is a progressive one for the island. Addressing a military parade at the Winsor Park in Roseau to mark the island's 3d anniversary of political independence from Britain, Miss Charles pointed to the many development projects undertaken by her administration since it came to office 15 months ago. Miss Charles said that "prophets of doom" were trying to prevent job creation on the island, and shouting violation of human rights, which violations they know do not exist." [quote mark as received] Her remark was apparently thrown at the left-leaning Dominica Liberation Movement Alliance which has on a number of occasions accused the government of human rights violations.

Miss Charles declared: "We have invited international organizations to come in and see for themselves, witness the legal inquiries that are being conducted....and thus ensure that justice is done. It is strange that the persons who pretend to espouse the cause of human rights are admirers of countries in which no such legal inquiries are permitted and where people are held for years without any recourse being afforded them. This group of persons, whose one ambition is to destabilize and is using funds from friendly countries in the attempt to do this, must learn to be fair to Dominica and Dominicans," she said. She warned that: "We will, within the full process of democracy, deal firmly with them, because we must ask ourselves are we being firm in the handling of our affairs?... We feel that we are."

DEMOCRATIC LABOR PARTY HOLDS CONVENTION

FL022224 Bridgetown CANA in English 2120 GMT 2 Nov 81

[Text] Roseau, Dominica, 2 Nov (CANA) -- Former Prime Minister Oliver Seraphin was yesterday elected political leader of the Democratic Labor Party (DEMLAB), ending a short political struggle with his former finance minister, Michael Douglas.

Douglas was not present at yesterday's first delegates conference of DEMLAB, held in the village of Salisbury west of here, he having joined up with the Dominica Labor Party of ex-Prime Minister Patrick John, which is now called the United Dominica Labor Party.

A release issued by DEMLAB today said that former Communications, Works and Tourism Minister Luke Coriette had been elected deputy political leader of DEMLAB, which at the 1981 general elections secured two seats in Parliament. According to the release, yesterday's gathering "exceeded the highest expectations," with delegates discussing the future of the party as well as plans for a reunification of the entire labor movement. It said that among the highlights of the convention were addresses by members of the left-leaning Dominica Liberation Movement Alliance, the parent Dominica Labor party, the vocal Dominica Farmers Union and the National Workers Union.

Resolutions calling for full endorsement of the expulsion of both Michael Douglas and his brother Rosie from the party were unanimously adopted. The constitution of the party -- formed during the nationwide disturbances that led to the downfall of Patrick John from power in June 1979 -- was formally adopted at the convention.

GRENADA

BISHOP DISCUSSES FARMING PROBLEMS, REMEDIES

FL031847 Bridgetown CANA in English 1727 GMT 3 Nov 81

[Excerpts] St Georges, Grenada, 3 Nov (CANA) -- The agricultural sector's biggest problems in Grenada are lack of marketing and credit facilities and disease in the fields, says Prime Minister Maurice Bishop.

Mr Bishop's remarks were made in the rural area of St Andrews at a ceremony to mark the first anniversary of the Productive Farmers Union (PFU) of Grenada. Mr Bishop said that the government was conscious of the many problems plaguing the industry, and was implementing measures for improving the sector.

He also referred to a government-sponsored 4.7 million dollar (1 EC dollar: 37 cents U.S.) scheme to assist farmers with the purchase of equipment, vehicles, the construction of depots and establishment of outlets to sell fertilizers and other inputs for the industry. Over 1.6 million dollars of the amount has already been spent on the purchase of heavy equipment to be used by farmers.

"The farmers had been one of the most oppressed, neglected, exploited and suffering sections of the working people in our country." Mr Bishop said that the Grenadian Government was committed to improving the country's agricultural sector. "What we want to do through the assistance we are trying to provide, is to make sure that the farmer in Grenada can move away as rapidly as possible from being the suffering, exploited, scrunty human being, to being a human being that is able to satisfy his material needs, and to provide for his family."

VINCENT NOEL DISCUSSES 3D TRADE UNION CONFERENCE

FL031654 Bridgetown CANA in English 1455 GMT 3 Nov 81

[Text] St Georges, Grenada, 3 Nov (CANA) -- There is a common bond between Caribbean workers under the communist system in Cuba and their counterparts who work under the capitalist system in other parts of the region, says Vincent Noel, first vice president of the Grenada Trade Unions Council. Mr Noel was making an analysis of the regional labor scene as he discussed plans for the third union conference for the unity and solidarity of Caribbean workers, scheduled to be held in Grenada from 18 to 21 November. "The question of worker solidarity transcends economic systems," he told reporters. "Workers everywhere have the right and the duty to work together for a better share of the wealth that they help create... getting better benefits, wages, improved working conditions and giving solidarity when they are threatened as a class or when their country is threatened. "I think all of these things transcend social systems, political systems and even religious questions." The first trade union conference of this kind took place in Guyana in August 1977, sponsored by the National Trade Union Organizations of Cuba, Guyana and Guadeloupe, and the Caribbean Congress of Labor (CCL). According to Mr Noel, 20 organizations from the region were represented and it was the first time that trade unions from the French, English, Dutch and Spanish-speaking Caribbean had gathered in confernce. In 1979, the second regional trade union conference was held in Cuba, with 28 organizations represented.

Mr Noel said that for the third conference, 25 organizations have already accepted the invitation and he expected several more to attend. "This conference promises to surpass the previous conferences from the point of view of participation." Representatives will be from the major trade unions throughout the English-speaking Caribbean. Affirmative responses for attendance have been received also from trade union organization in Belize, Cayenne, Suriname, Venezuela, the Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico, Nicaragua, Cuba, Curacao, Aruba, Martinique and Guadeloupe. Mr Noel said that the conference will have "two broad items" on its agenda. The first will be what he called "the socio-economic problems that workers in the area face, including their living and working conditions as a result of the world capitalist crisis and the influence of transnational enterprises on our countries economies." "The second one," he said, "will be trade union unity and solidarity in the struggle for better economic, social and political conditions for Caribbean workers." The coordinating committee organizing the conference is comprised of trade union organizations from Guyana, Guadeloupe, Jamaica, Belize, Puerto Rico, Cuba, Grenada and Trinidad and Tobago. Mr Noel said the fact that Grenada was chosen to host the conference "is an indication that the committee has identitied Grenada as one of the countries where workers' rights and privileges have been expanded greatly during the last 2 and 1/2 years. I think this is, in part, solidarity with Grenadian workers," he said, "and to see for themselves the process that is taking place in Grenada."

ST VINCENT

DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER TANNIS INTERVIEWED

FL032321 Bridgetown CANA in English 1955 GMT 3 Nov 81

[By Reudon Eversley]

[Text] Kingstown, St Vincent, 3 Nov (CANA) -- St Vincent and the Grenadines has moved into its 3d year of political independence with the government of Prime Minister Milton Cato expressing satisfaction with progress made, but convinced that its rate could have been faster if there were access to more foreign aid. The country, comprising a string of small islands, became independent on 27 October 1979.

Deputy Prime Minister Hudson Tannis, who is widely regarded here as the government's chief spokesman, told the CARIBBEAN NEWS AGENCY (CANA) that except for 1979 and 1980 when the island experienced natural disasters -- the eruption of La Soufriere Volcano and Hurricane Allen - the economy as a whole has been performing "very well" since 1975.

He pointed out that in 1978, growth had been in the region of over 13 percent, adding that the government was placing much emphasis now on diversification through tourism and the setting up of light industries. He noted that there had been a substantial growth in the industrial sector over the past 7 years. St Vincent today has several garment factories, a flour mill, [a] box-making plant, an electronic assembly plant, a galvanize factory [and] a dairy. A German-owned beer company is likely to start operations soon. The government recently resuscitated the sugar industry.

The deputy prime minister explained that the development of industry had saved the government much needed foreign exchange. He cited as an example the boxing plant which manufactures containers for exporting bananas. Boxes previously had to be imported.

Mr Tannis admitted that there was some exploitation of labor in the industrial sector where local workers were being paid small salaries for their work by foreign companies.

He argued that despite this, they were acquiring skills and earning some money for themselves which was better than staying at home unemployed. St Vincent has a very serious unemployment problem. Mr Tannis said over 20 percent of the country's labor force was unemployed. Those persons affected fall mostly within the 16-25 age group. Opposition leader Randolph Russell put it at about 50 percent.

Whichever is correct, the problem is there for all to see. Hundreds of youths "line" by the roadside daily. Rastafarianism is said to be on the increase as well as crime, especially theft and breaking and entering.

Mr Tannis said tourism "a small but important sector" was currently contributing 10 million dollars (1 EC dollar: 37 cents U.S.) to the economy, adding that visitor arrivals had increased from 10,000 persons in 1975 to 50,000 in 1980. He further stated that for the first 6 months of this year, while other neighboring tourist islands were experiencing a decline in arrivals, a slight increase in overnighting visitors was recorded here. The deputy prime minister, who has responsibility for tourism, said he would not like to see arrivals going to more than 200,000 a year, as that was likely to signal the start of social problems associated with the industry.

But despite its emphasis on the development of tourism and industry, government continues to attach great importance to agriculture -- the economy's backbone since colonial times. According to chief agricultural officer, Carlton Williams, emphasis is being placed on crop diversification. In addition to sugar cane's reintroduction, onions and garlic are new crops. Mr Williams said the problems facing the banana industry, by far the most important in this sector, were being aggravated by the fluctuating value of the pound sterling on the international market. He also said government wanted to develop agro-industry for the processing of produce.

The top official said government was considering the upgrading of facilities and equipment as well as providing training opportunities for fishermen to boost fish catches. In addition, plans for the establishment of a government fishing fleet are now being formulated, and a patrol boat is being bought from Britain to patrol coastal waters to guard against illegal fishing. Mr Williams said agriculture's future was assured because there were extensive marketing possibilities in the region which just had to be tapped.

The deputy prime minister, Mr Tannis, who is also foreign minister, reaffirmed his government's commitment ot closer cooperation with neighboring countries, the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and other regional institutions. Speaking on his country's experience as a member of the international community during the past 2 years, he said St Vincent had brushed aside invitations to become committed to any country, but he declined to call names.

He said his government strongly felt that small countries should concern themselves with their own affairs and not those of the big countries.

He ruled out the possibility of his country becoming a member of the Nonaligned Movement, pointing out that he felt the movement had shifted greatly as a neutral force in world affairs as conceptualized by its founding fathers. He said the movement was tilted today more towards Eastern influences and dogmas. The deputy prime minister said St Vincent was hoping to have its application for membership of the OAS accepted at its general assembly in St Lucia next month.

Mr Tannis said though St Vincent was not yet a signatory to the Treaty of Basseterre, which gave birth to the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS), significant progress had been made within the organization and as soon as management machinery was established, it [the application for membership] would be properly launched. St Vincent attached great importance to the OECS, he declared, adding that as soon as the matter was debated in Parliament and was given approval, the island would accede to membership.

The deputy prime minister said his country had established three missions since independence -- joint missions in London and Ottawa, with St Lucia, Antigua, St Kitts, Nevis, Montserrat and to a certain extent, Dominica; and a small mission at the United Nations which is run by two persons -- a charge d'affaires and a clerk. Over the same period, diplomatic relations were established with the United States, Japan, Holland, France, South Korea, North Korea, and Taiwan. Mr Tannis said Cuba and a number of Eastern European states had indicated a desire to establish diplomatic relations with St Vincent and these were being considered by his government.

Speaking about the country's infrastructure, Mr Tannis disclosed that plans were afoot to upgrade facilities at the Arnos Vale airport to accommodate middle range jets, but ruled out the possibility of turning it into an international airport, because of high costs. He also said the government was negotiating a loan with the Barbados-based Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) to expand and improve the facilities at the Kingstown harbor.

The deputy prime minister stated that about 80 percent of the mainland (St Vincent) was electrified, the only "dark" part being beyond the dry river in the extreme north of the island. Union Island, Bequia and Mustique -- all Grenadine Islands -- also had electricity. Seventy-five percent of St Vincent has piped water facilities and every inhabitable community has access to a road, Mr Tannis said, though admitting that residents in the Grenadines do not have piped water. Water has to be caught in catchments on the roofs.

Mr Tannis explained that his government would like to exploit the island's hydro-power resources to provide electricity, but had to wait for funds from the international community after "a lot of talk." Expensive imported fuel now goes toward electricity generation.

Mr Tannis denied charges that the Kingstown government was guilty of neglecting the people in the Grenadines. He said government was fully aware of their problems, but was restricted in tackling them because of limited financial resources. On Union Island, the scene of a small uprising in December 1979, "aggressive tendencies" were becoming evident again in the form of personal hostility to residents of the mainland, he disclosed.

Questioned on the emergence of so many opposition parties in the country, Mr Tannis said it was "an indication of the health of our democracy." The opposition parties do not think so. Opposition leader Randolph Russell, a wealthy Kingstown businessman who broke away from a Cabinet position in the government earlier this year to form his Progressive Democratic Party, has accused the government of eroding the democratic and constitutional rights of Vincentians. He said that Parliament has not held a meeting for 4 months. According to the standing orders of the House of Assembly, a meeting should be held every first Thursday of the month, except in May, June and July.

Speaking at a meeting on Sunday night in Georgetown, the island's second largest town, Mr Russell accused the government of "babul" (the vernacular for corruption) and said the House had not met because one of its first tasks would be to set up a public accounts committee.

He also said at that meeting that government was collaborating with Guyana's president, Forbes Burnham, to oppress Vincentians, but he did not explain how. The opposition leader, who held the health portfolio in the Milto Cato administration, accused the government of paying agricultural laborers "starvation wages." Mr Russell said a male laborer received a daily wage of 8 dollars while a female received 6 dollars. He compared that with the salary of a minister who, he said, received over 3,000 dollars monthly, allowances included. He called on the government for land reform so that the laborers can own their own plots which would be an incentive for them to produce more.

TRINIDAD-TOBAGO

COUNTRY NEARING GENERAL ELECTION 9 NOV

FL040135 Bridgetown CANA in English 2106 GMT 3 Nov 81

[By Trevor Yearwood]

[Text] Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, 3 Nov (CANA) -- Hundreds of political crusaders were today spreading across the oil producing Caribbean state, seeking to make more converts in the lead-up to Monday's general election. The crusaders -- largely from the ruling People's National Movement (PNM), the Organization for National Reconstruction (ONR), the National Joint Action Committee (NJAC) and a three-party alliance -- were back on the trail today after a series of public meetings last night. Party officials said the campaigning was taking place against the background of increasing concern about sporadic incidents of violence, with the government and the opposition divided on the issue of who cast the first stone. Both Prime Minister George Chambers and ONR leader Karl Hudson-Phillips have reaffirmed their parties's commitment to nonviolence.

Addressing a public meeting, Mr Chambers made what he called his 10th appeal for a peaceful election. His message to supporters was: Do not be provoked. The ONR also called on its supporters to pledge: We will not be moved to react in any way that would escalate violence in Trinidad and Tobago. Mr Chambers said he expected his opponents to raise the temperature of the campaign with more violence. Mr Hudson-Phillips rejected claims that the opposition had started the trouble, saying the tone of the campaign had been set by inflammatory speeches from the PNM's platform. At least one political candidate -- deputy ONR leader Suruu Rambachan -- spoken of an alleged assassination attempt. He said someone in a vehicle fired shots at a jeep he was driving last weekend. He was uninjured.

Some candidates have complained about being attacked and having dry white lime dumped on their cars. Churchmen here threw in their weight behind the appeal for a peaceful election during ecumenical services on Sunday. A Presbyterian clergyman, Rev Cyril Paul, went further and advised church members to vote only for God-fearing candidates. For too long we have elected people mainly on their scholastic ability, on their speaking ability, on their administrative ability, he said during a sermon. The time has come for us to elect persons on their God-fearing ability.

Apart from the question of violence, platform issues have been government's economic strategy and the opposition's claim of corruption in high places in the administration. The political leader of NJAC, Mankandal Daaga, told a public meeting that the government has mismanaged the economy, spending 72 million dollars (one TT dollar : 41 cents U.S.) between 1974 and this year for purposes other than the badly-needed transformation of Trinidad and Tobago. He also said that the government was pumping millions of dollars into industrial projects -- such as an ammonia plant in the sprawling Point Lisas complex -- which were headed for major problems because of factors including a decline in demand for their products. The party, which claims to represent the poor, said the election would be a fight between big business and the "small, suffering man." One of its more striking promises, made at a public meeting, was to hold another general election within 3 years if it wins this poll.